

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1           **1.** (Currently Amended) A method of treating patients for obesity, which  
2 comprises the steps of:

3           performing bilateral stimulation of the patient's vagus nerve by applying a  
4 stimulating electrical signal directly to the right and left vagi, wherein the parameters of  
5 said signal are predetermined to produce a sensation of satiety in the patient.

Cancel claim 2.

1           **3.** (Currently Amended) The method of claim **2** 1, wherein said ~~intermittent~~  
2 application of said stimulating electrical signal is chronic.

1           **4.** (Original) The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal continuously to the right and left vagi.

1           **5.** (Original) The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal to the right and left vagi during a customary mealtime  
3 according to the patient's circadian cycle.

1           **6.** (Original) The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal to the right and left vagi upon delivery of an external  
3 commencement signal administered by the patient.

1           **7.** (Original) The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying the same  
2 stimulating electrical signal to both the right and left vagi.

1           **8. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying a different  
2 stimulating electrical signal to the right vagus from the stimulating electrical signal applied  
3 to the left vagus.

1           **9. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, including using separate nerve stimulator  
2 generators for stimulating the left and right vagi.

1           **10. (Original)** The method of claim **9**, including implanting said separate nerve  
2 stimulator generators into the patient.

1           **11. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, including implanting nerve stimulator  
2 generator apparatus into the patient for said bilateral stimulation of the vagi.

1           **12. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal supra diaphragmatically to the left and right vagi.

1           **13. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, wherein said stimulating electrical signal is  
2 characterized by a current magnitude below a predetermined retching level.

1           **14. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, wherein said stimulating electrical signal is  
2 a pulse signal having a prescribed on-off duty cycle.

1           **15. (Original)** The method of claim **14**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal continuously to the right and left vagi so that pulses are  
3 applied during the on portion of said duty cycle and not during the off portion of said duty  
4 cycle.

1           **16. (Original)** The method of claim **15**, including using separate nerve stimulator

2 generators for stimulating the left and right vagi.

1       **17. (Original)** The method of claim **15**, including implanting separate nerve  
2 stimulator generators into the patient to stimulate the left and right vagi.

1       **18. (Original)** The method of claim **15**, including the step of applying said  
2 stimulating electrical signal supra diaphragmatically to the left and right vagi.

1       **19. (Original)** The method of claim **15**, wherein one of said parameters of said  
2 stimulating electrical signal is a pulse current magnitude below a predetermined level at  
3 which the signal tends to produce retching in the patient .

1       **20. (Original)** The method of claim **15**, wherein said pulse signal has a pulse  
2 current magnitude in a range up to about 6 ma.

1       **21. (Original)** The method of claim **20**, wherein said pulse signal has a pulse  
2 width in a range up to about 500 ms.

1       **22. (Original)** The method of claim **21**, wherein said pulse signal has a repetition  
2 frequency of about 30 Hz.

1       **23. (Original)** The method of claim **22**, wherein said pulse signal has a duty cycle  
2 with a ratio of on to off of about 1:1.8.

1       **24. (Original)** A method of treating patients for compulsive overeating, which  
2 comprises the steps of:  
3       stimulating left and right branches of the patient's vagus nerve simultaneously with  
4       electrical pulses in a predetermined sequence of a first period in which pulses are applied

5 continuously, alternating with a second period in which no pulses are applied.

1       **25.** (Original) The method of claim **24**, including the step of applying said  
2 electrical pulses to the vagus nerve at a supradiaphragmatic location.

1       **26.** (Original) The method of claim **25**, wherein said pulses have an electrical  
2 current magnitude not exceeding about 6 ma.

1       **27.** (Original) The method of claim **26**, wherein said electrical current magnitude  
2 is preselected to be less than a level that induces retching in the patient.

1       **28.** (Original) The method of claim **27**, wherein said pulses have a width not  
2 exceeding about 500 ms.

1       **29.** (Original) The method of claim **28**, wherein said pulses have a repetition  
2 frequency of about 30 Hz.

1       **30.** (Original) The method of claim **29**, wherein said second period is 1.8 times as  
2 long as said first period.

1       **31.** (Original) Apparatus for treating patients suffering from compulsive eating  
2 disorder, comprising:

3       implantable neurostimulator device means for simultaneously stimulating left and  
4 right branches of the patient's vagus nerve with electrical pulses in a predetermined  
5 sequence of a first period in which pulses are applied continuously, alternating with a  
6 second period in which no pulses are applied; and

7       electrode means for implantation on said right and left branches in a  
8 supradiaphragmatic position.

1       **32. (Original)** The apparatus of claim **31**, wherein said neurostimulator device  
2 means generates pulses with an adjustable electrical current magnitude not exceeding  
3 about 6 ma..

1       **33. (Original)** The apparatus of claim **32**, wherein said neurostimulator device  
2 means generates pulses having an adjustable width not exceeding about 500 ms.

1       **34. (Original)** The apparatus of claim **33**, wherein said neurostimulator device  
2 means generates pulses at a repetition frequency of about 30 Hz.  
3

1       **35. (Original)** The method of claim **34**, wherein said second period is adjusted to  
2 be 1.8 times as long as said first period.

1       **36. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, wherein said electrical signal is applied  
2 synchronously to the right and left vagi.

1       **37. (Original)** The method of claim **1**, wherein said electrical signal is applied  
2 asynchronously to the right and left vagi.

1       **38. (Currently Amended)** ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method of treating patients  
2 for obesity, which comprises the steps of:  
3 performing bilateral stimulation of the patient's vagus nerve by applying a  
4 stimulating electrical signal to the right and left vagi, wherein the parameters of said signal  
5 are predetermined to produce a sensation of satiety in the patient, wherein said electrical  
6 signal is applied to the right and left vagi indirectly by stimulating the stomach or other  
7 visceral organ.